

Torrance, California
July 26, 1938

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday evening, July 26, 1938 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. Absent: Councilmen: None.

Councilman McGuire moved that the minutes of a regular meeting held July 12, 1938 and of an adjourned regular meeting held July 19, 1938 be approved as written. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, advising that Mr. Nathan Straus, Administrator of the United States Housing Authority, who is in charge of the slum clearing program, will be in Los Angeles, August, 1938. It was urged that as many as possible attend the meeting scheduled for August 3 at 12:15 at the Biltmore Ballroom, Los Angeles. The communications was filed.

A communication was read from the Torrance Coordinating Council asking that two representatives of the City Council attend the next Coordinating Council Meeting to be held August 8, 1938 at 7:30 P.M. in the City Hall. Councilman Murray volunteered to attend.

A communication was read from the County of Los Angeles Regional Planning Commission, stating that a building line ordinance had been established of 40 feet from the center line

on either side of 136th Street, from the easterly boundary of the City of Redondo Beach to Prairie Avenue. They requested that the City of Torrance establish a building line for that portion of 136th Street lying within the City of Torrance. The matter was referred to Acting Engineer Young for report at the next meeting.

A communication was read from Union Oil Company of California, advising that no pipe lines or conduits were constructed under Franchise Ordinance No. 1010 in the County of Los Angeles within that portion now included within the City of Torrance for the six months' period ending July 1, 1938.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, in which an appropriation was requested to cover expenses of attendance at the State Convention in Santa Barbara of delegates of the local unit of the Ladies of the Moose Lodge.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$100.00 be made for this purpose. Mayor Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication from L.J. Gilmeister, Director of Public Relations, was read, asking for the appropriation of funds for the appearance of the Torrance Municipal Band at the 1938 Los Angeles County Fair at Pomona on Sunday, September 18, 1938.

No action was taken at this time.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, urging that prompt and favorable consideration be given to the installation of necessary sewage facilities in the vicinity of Engracia and Llewlyn Avenues, where it is anticipated a small new industry will be established in the near future should this improvement be made.

Acting Engineer Young reported that this sewage connection would cost about \$200.00.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the matter be referred to the City Engineer for investigation and report at the next meeting. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Kiwanis Club, calling attention to the deplorable condition of the streets in the City of Torrance. It was suggested that a thorough survey be made of all principal streets in Torrance, and that they be completely re-surfaced to make a substantial base for the increasing traffic load they serve.

It was also suggested through this communication that the eucalyptus trees on El Prado Street be removed and substituted with cocos palms or some other kind of tree more suitable as a residential adornment than the eucalyptus. The removal of the palms from El Prado Park, substituting another species, was also suggested.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the communication be filed for future consideration. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication from Charles C. Franklin was read, applying for a permit to operate a card room in the City of Torrance.

Councilman Powell moved that the request be denied. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A petition, signed by 246 citizens of WALTERIA, was presented at this time, the purpose of which was to protest the action of the City Council in changing the Torrance Fire Station No. 2 from an active to a volunteer station. Discussion was delayed until the latter part of the meeting.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1205

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DETERMINING AND DECLARING THAT THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND NECESSITY DEMAND THE ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION BY SAID CITY OF CERTAIN MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS.

Councilman Murray moved that Resolution No. 1205 be adopted. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1206

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO FILE AN APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THROUGH THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR A GRANT TO AID IN FINANCING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A WALTERIA RECREATIONAL BUILDING, LIBRARY, ETC., AND DESIGNATING A.H. BARTLETT, CITY CLERK TO FURNISH SUCH INFORMATION AS THE GOVERNMENT MAY REQUEST.

Councilman McGuire moved that Resolution No. 1206 be adopted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1207

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO FILE AN APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THROUGH THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR A GRANT TO AID IN FINANCING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MUNICIPAL RECREATION BUILDING, TENNIS COURTS, ETC., AND DESIGNATING A.H. BARTLETT, CITY CLERK TO FURNISH SUCH INFORMATION AS THE GOVERNMENT MAY REQUEST.

Councilman Murray moved that Resolution No. 1207 be adopted. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1208

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO FILE AN APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THROUGH THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR A GRANT TO AID IN FINANCING THE CONSTRUCTION OF MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOL, ETC., AND DESIGNATING A.H. BARTLETT, CITY CLERK TO FURNISH SUCH INFORMATION AS THE GOVERNMENT MAY REQUEST.

Councilman Powell moved that Resolution No. 1208 be adopted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from the Division of Highways, enclosing an agreement for accumulation of $\frac{1}{4}$ -cent gas tax for streets of major importance within the City of Torrance for the 1939 fiscal year. They advised that the agreement should be signed by an official duly authorized by law to execute agreements on behalf of the City and should be accompanied by a certified copy of the resolution approving same and authorizing the officer to sign said agreement.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1209

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE APPROVING MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR
ACCUMULATION OF $\frac{1}{4}$ CENT GAS TAX ALLOCATED
FOR STREETS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1209 be adopted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Murray moved that a committee consisting of the City Clerk, City Engineer and City Attorney be authorized to interview Mr. Beebe of O'Melveny, Tuller & Myers in regard to the bond issue. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Young stated that some system of controlling traffic in the vicinity of 190th Street and Hawthorne Boulevard will be necessary in the near future. He advised that Mr. Davis of the State Division of Highways, who has charge of traffic control, suggested painting double lines on the street and placing "No Passing" signs at certain points along the highway. It was suggested that, since the State Division of Highways has all necessary machinery and equipment for this, that they be authorized to perform the work, using $\frac{1}{4}$ - cent gas tax funds therefor.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the State Division of Highways be authorized to paint double lines on Hawthorne Boulevard approaching 190th Street; also to paint double lines on hills where the view is obstructed and to place "No Passing" and other needed signs at necessary points between Torrance Boulevard and 182nd Street. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Attorney McCall reported that, upon investigation the matter of whether or not the City of Torrance could legally pay the installation charge for a fire hydrant installed by the City of Gardena, said hydrant being adjacent to and available for use by City of Torrance property owners, this action would be legal in every respect.

Engineer Young stated that the City of Gardena had agreed that if the City of Torrance would pay three years' rental in advance, amounting to \$72.00, no rental fee would be necessary in the future for use of the hydrant.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer be authorized to enter into contract with the City of Gardena for the three years' advance rental of the hydrant, said contract to specify no future rental charges, and said contract to be approved by City Attorney McCall. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Attorney McCall reported all garbage bids to be in order.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that all bids submitted for the garbage contract be rejected and that all money be refunded to the bidders. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was

carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson stated that the fire hydrants requested at Cedar Street and Sepulveda and at Vine Street and Sepulveda would cost \$100.00 and \$1,063.33 respectively. No action was taken at this time.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$222.48 be made for 24 5/8" x 3/4" meters for the Water Department. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The petition presented earlier in the meeting was brought up at this time. A lengthy discussion between the City Council and a delegation of WALTERIA residents followed, at which time the advantages and disadvantages of the new arrangement at the Torrance Fire Station No. 2 were cited. Countless questions were answered in an effort to clear the situation and assure the people that, even though this step had been purely for economic reasons, safety had not been sacrificed in any way. It was also explained that the Board of Fire Underwriters had been contacted and had assured the City of Torrance that this move would in no way effect the fire rates. The participants in the discussion were Mr. Crow, Mr. Loughridge, Mr. Hagberg, Mr. Cadle from WALTERIA, J.H. Stroh, Director of Public Safety, and the City Council.

Mr. Ward asked if the City of Torrance contemplated placing a street light at the corner of 240th Street and Ward Street. It developed that this matter was discussed at a previous meeting and was deemed unnecessary.

Mr. Hagberg asked that Newton Street in WALTERIA be improved. He also asked that all the short streets be re-named.

Councilman McGuire moved that Councilman Powell be granted a leave of absence for the month of August. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.


City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:


Mayor of the City of Torrance